



IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
AIKEN DIVISION

WILLIE BELL, JR.,
Petitioner,

vs.

LEVERN COHEN, *Warden Ridgeland
Correctional Institution*,
Respondent.

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Civil Action No. 1:19-02270-MGL

**ORDER ADOPTING THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION
AND GRANTING RESPONDENT'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT**

Petitioner Willie Bell, Jr. (Bell), proceeding pro se, filed this action asserting a habeas corpus claim under 28 U.S.C. § 2254. This matter is before the Court for review of the Report and Recommendation (Report) of the United States Magistrate Judge suggesting Respondent Levern Cohen's (Cohen) motion for summary judgment be granted and the petition be dismissed with prejudice. The Report was made in accordance with 28 U.S.C. § 636 and Local Civil Rule 73.02 for the District of South Carolina.

The Magistrate Judge makes only a recommendation to this Court. The recommendation has no presumptive weight. The responsibility to make a final determination remains with the Court. *Mathews v. Weber*, 423 U.S. 261, 270 (1976). The Court is charged with making a *de novo* determination of those portions of the Report to which specific objection is made, and the Court

may accept, reject, or modify, in whole or in part, the recommendation of the Magistrate Judge or recommit the matter with instructions. 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1).

The Magistrate Judge filed the Report on May 5, 2020. To date, Bell has not filed any objections to the report. “[I]n the absence of a timely filed objection, a district court need not conduct a de novo review, but instead must ‘only satisfy itself that there is no clear error on the face of the record in order to accept the recommendation.’” *Diamond v. Colonial Life & Acc. Ins. Co.*, 416 F.3d 310, 315 (4th Cir. 2005) (quoting Fed. R. Civ. P. 72 advisory committee’s note). Moreover, a failure to object waives appellate review. *Wright v. Collins*, 766 F.2d 841, 845-46 (4th Cir. 1985).

After a thorough review of the Report and the record in this case pursuant to the standard set forth above, the Court adopts the Report and incorporates it herein. Therefore, it is the judgment of the Court Cohen’s motion for summary judgment is **GRANTED** and Bell’s petition is **DISMISSED WITH PREJUDICE**.

To the extent Bell moves for a certificate of appealability, that request is **DENIED**.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Signed this 26th day of May 2020 in Columbia, South Carolina.

s/ Mary Geiger Lewis
MARY GEIGER LEWIS
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

NOTICE OF RIGHT TO APPEAL

The parties are hereby notified of the right to appeal this Order within thirty days from the date hereof, pursuant to Rules 3 and 4 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure.

